

Message Text

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43

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 JUSE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7748

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCEUR

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF AEGEAN ISSUE TO ICJ

1. PRIMIN IRMAK, SPEAKING TO REPORTERS JANUARY 29, IS REPORTED IN PRESS AS HAVING STATED THAT "WE EMBRACE AS A PRINCIPLE THE MATTER OF GOING TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE AS PROPOSED TO US BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT. WE ARE NOT A NATION WHICH IS AFRAID OF JUSTICE, BECAUSE WE BELIEVE WE ARE RIGHT. WE BELIEVE THAT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS SHOULD BE RESPECTED

AND WE ARE ALSO DETERMINED TO PROTECT OUR OWN RIGHTS COME WHAT MAY. FOR THIS REASON WE ARE NOT AFRAID TO APPEAR BEFORE A HIGH COURT WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE IMPARTIAL." (HOWEVER, MFA SPOKESMAN AKBIL TOLD EMBOFF THAT NO RPT NO DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THAT THE MATTER IS STILL

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UNDER CONSIDERATION.)

2. DISCUSSING THE GREEK ISLANDS IN THE AEGEAN, THE PRIMIN

STATED THAT TURKEY "CAN PROVIDE THE GREEKS WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF BENEFITING FROM THESE ISLANDS TO A JUSTIFIABLE DEGREE AND CAN ENVISAGE REACHING AN AGREEMENT ON IT WITH GREECE, AND WE ARE READY TO DO SO, AS LONG AS IT IS ACCEPTED THAT THE MAIN DEPARTURE POINT IS THAT THE CONTINENTAL SHELF IS AN EXTENSION OF ANATOLIA."

3. MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, PRIMIN SAID NORWEGIAN SHII "LONGVA" WOULD START SEISMIC SURVEYS FOR TURKEY IN THE FIRST DAYS OF FEBRUARY, "BY WHICH TIME WE WILL HAVE ESTABLISHED THE MOST SUITABLE AREAS." HE RECALLED THAT SUCH SURVEYS HAD BEEN MADE BY "GREEKS AND ITALIANS, AND EVEN BY YUGOSLAV FIRMS," AND

ADDED: "WE TOO WILL DO IT IN THE AREA WHICH WE CONSIDER TO BE OUR CONTINENTAL SHELF."

MACOMBER

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